From: Association Of Law Enforcement Intelligence Units (LEIU)
To: steague@bakersfieldpd.us
Subject: From the LEIU Executive Board (The Source)
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2019 9:15:17 AM

Image

Wednesday 3/13/19

The LEIU Source is a weekly news publication brought to you by the LEIU Executive Board.

Each Wednesday, we share with you a few of the articles or intelligence-based publications that have come across our desk.

If you have a publication or an article that you feel needs to be shared, please send these to IntelligenceAnalysis@mac.com for review.

If you feel others at your department would benefit from receiving this publication, please forward this email. At the bottom of this publication is a link where they can add their email to the distribution list.

Breaking Back to Meth?

Image

LAW ENFORCEMENT officers in the U.S. are struggling to tackle a resurgent methamphetamine problem that's been growing in the shadow of the opioid crisis, as much of the market's supply has shifted from a homemade product made in domestic labs to a purer and cheaper narcotic imported by foreign cartels.

"Demand is of course there, as it always has been – I would say it has gone up. But the supply … there's just so much more of it," says Sgt. Rick Jackson of the Pendleton Police Department in eastern Oregon.

How Oakland Has Seen a Big Drop in Crime—Without More Police

Image

When three-year-old Carlos Nava was shot and killed on the streets of Oakland in 2011, the city's police force had been depleted.

Carlos was out shopping with his mother when a drive-by shooter targeted two men standing nearby at 65th Avenue and International Boulevard. The two men survived, but the toddler's death shocked the region and horrified even the most calloused observers of Oakland's seemingly endless epidemic of violent crime. "If we had the right resources, this could be as safe as any city," then-police chief Anthony Batts complained to the San Francisco Chronicle. "Maybe the loss of young Carlos will wake this city up."

Social workers, overdose reversers, counselors:

Why are Philly police tasked with so much more than law enforcement? | Opinion

Image

On a cold night in January, SEPTA transit police officers asked a group of homeless people who were finding shelter in Suburban Station to leave as the station was closing for the night. The group refused. Violence erupted and the officers used their batons and pepper spray. Who threw the first punch is disputed. A few days later, a SEPTA police officer was filmed dragging a homeless person who seems to be in a state of stupor in a wheelchair across Suburban Station. When confronted by a bystander, the officer responded: "You want to take him? Go. Take him home with you."

Some people who saw the video saw a burned-out police officer who handles a difficult population on a daily basis. Others saw lack of empathy and dehumanization of a person who is homeless. At the heart of both of these incidents are police officers who are tasked with dealing with a social problem, not a crime. It's easy to blame this kind of behavior on specific officers, but that avoids a larger conversation about the role of police in Philadelphia and if it matches the city's evolving needs.

Dynamic Algorithm Helps NYPD Spot Crime Patterns

Image

When a syringe-wielding drill thief tried sticking up a Home Depot near Yankee Stadium, police figured out quickly that it wasn't a one-off. A man had also used a syringe a few weeks earlier while stealing a drill at another Home Depot 7 miles (11 kilometers) south in Manhattan.

The match, though, wasn't made by an officer looking through files. It was done by pattern-recognition computer software developed by the New York Police Department.

Former trooper pens book, gives talk about capturing Beltway snipers

Image

After recently penning a book about his first hand account of heading the Beltway snipers investigation, David Reichenbaugh stopped at C. Burr Artz Public Library Saturday to recount the crucial moments of the “largest manhunt in American law

enforcement history."

Reichenbaugh released "In Pursuit: The Hunt for the Beltway Snipers" in October. Saturday's presentation was organized by Curious Iguana in downtown Frederick.

The Beltway snipers were John Allen Muhammad (41 at the time) and Lee Boyd Malvo, who was 17 at the time of the attacks. The two men caused public hysteria and made national news after they carried out a series of shootings throughout Maryland, Washington, D.C and Virginia over a 23-day period in October 2002.

The US tracked border advocates, journalists and attorneys. Is it legal?

Image

SAN DIEGO — Confirmation that the U.S. government has compiled dossiers on human rights activists, journalists and lawyers interacting with the migrant caravan in Mexico has reignited an age-old clash between civil liberties and government authority.

What U.S. Customs and Border Protection is calling a valid duty to gather cross-border intelligence and investigate criminal activity is being labeled as harassment by those who have been targeted.

Activists and freelance journalists named in the leaked dossiers, published last week by San Diego's NBC7, have reported being stopped and searched when they cross back into the U.S.

Senator Pushing BillSays Gaming Machines Illegal

Image

According to State Sen. Dave Schatz, R-Sullivan, there are 665 retail locations in the state of Missouri operating illegal gaming machines, which have cost the Missouri Lottery Commission $3.2 million in sales in the past six months.

A recent investigation by The Missourian found the gaming machines in place in the ZX gas stations in Washington and Union.

Schatz took on the gaming machines in his weekly legislative column where he says the machines are subverting legal gaming in the state and undercutting legal Missouri Lottery products by an estimated $90,000 per illegal machine in the state.

Cyber threat 'wider than ever'

Image

The cyber threat is "wider than ever" and encompasses serious aggressors abroad, notably in China and Russia, David L. Bowdich, deputy director of the

Federal Bureau of Investigation, told several hundred representatives from academia, private industry, and law enforcement assembled for the third annual Boston Conference on Cyber Security, BCCS 2019, held at Boston College on March 6.

"We're worried about a wider-than-ever range of threat actors, from multi-national cyber syndicates to nation-state adversaries; we're concerned about a wider-than-ever gamut of methods, from botnets to ransomware, and from spearfishing to business email compromise," Bowdich said. "We're seeing these diverse threats in almost every company, at almost every level. The days of wondering if you're going to be the next victim are gone. Instead, it's a matter of when, or even how often you'll get hit, and how bad it will be."

'El Chapo' renews U.S. law enforcement concerns about money laundering via prepaid cards

Image

NEW YORK (Thomson Reuters Regulatory Intelligence) - The recent trial of Mexican drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman has reignited U.S. law enforcement officials' concerns about the use of prepaid cards to launder proceeds of crime.

Sports betting bill passes 1st test at Minnesota Legislature

Image

A bill to legalize sports betting in Minnesota cleared its first test at the Legislature on Thursday but faces an uncertain future amid tribal opposition.

Senate Tax Committee Chairman Roger Chamberlain's bill passed his own panel on a 5-2 vote Thursday. It goes to the Senate state government committee, but the Lino Lakes Republican acknowledged in an interview it may not pass this session.

Ex-Glendale Detective Linked to Organized Crime Sentenced to Prison for Bribery, Obstructing Justice

Image

A former Glendale police detective who lied to authorities about his connection to organized crime and warned the Mexican Mafia about an upcoming gang arrest was sentenced on Friday to 21 months in prison.

John Saro Balian will also have to serve three years of supervised release following his incarceration and will be required to pay a $300 special assessment and a $60,000 fine to the government. The punishment comes after he pleaded guilty in July to one count each of soliciting a bribe, obstruction of justice and making false statements to federal investigators.

Registered sex offender captured trying to kidnap children

Image

LAKE ELSINORE, Calif. – A registered sex offender was taken into police custody after reportedly trying to kidnap two small children from a park in Lake Elsinore on Monday.
The frightening incident for parents occurred around 11:30 a.m., reported KABC News.

Police said Marcus Dewitt, 29, tried to grab a 3-year-old boy by the arm while the child was partially inside of a play apparatus at Rosetta Canyon Sports Park. Apparently, he was unable to get a firm grasp on the child due to the child's positioning on the playground equipment.

Little Rock Police Footage of Fatal Shooting

Mayor Frank Scott Jr., speaking at a news conference Thursday alongside Interim Police Chief Wayne Bewley, said that the department had completed the criminal investigations. As a result, the case has been submitted to prosecutors for review. Scott also said the FBI was looking into the fatal OIS on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice, reported KATV.

Authorities say that the administrative portion of the investigation is on going. Scott said that earlier this week Blackshire's family viewed footage of the OIS recorded by police dashboard cameras.

Lawmakers Angry That Data Shows No Racial Profiling, Say It's All Police Lies

Image

The numbers show racial profiling isn't happening among police in California. The media, on the other hand, says the numbers are fake. And the very people in charge of overseeing the study say the results can't possibly be real.

Gotta love California, where facts often get in the way of feelings.

Here's the deal. The state was the first in the nation to track racial profiling complaints against the police. But the board now says the number was so small that the results can't possibly be right.

Wells Fargo Uses AI to Fight Money Laundering

Image

Digital banking customers of today aren't looking for the bank with the newest

features — they're looking for the bank that can keep their data safe. Any security mishap can send customers to one of the other digital banking apps that are ready and waiting for them.
In the new Digital Banking Tracker™, PYMNTS examines the ways digital banking is changing as security measures grow more stringent, and challenger banks look to amass more customers.

Around the Digital Banking World

One such brand looking to expand within the next year is German challenger bank N26, which is seeking to branch out of its native Europe and into the United States. Following a funding round of approximately $300 million, the fully digital bank is aiming to compete with both U.S. incumbents and challengers by the end of 2019. The challenger's expansion comes as banks around the world are launching platforms of their own, including financial institutions (FIs) in Thailand and the Philippines.

Money to Launder? Here's How (Hint: Find a Bank)

Image

Incidents of law enforcement traffic stops turning deadly have become an all too familiar scene along U.S. roadways. Recently, a California Highway Patrol motorcycle officer and a motorist he pulled over were both killed when a pickup truck veered out of its lane and struck the two men. Seven officers have been struck and killed while conducting traffic stops so far this year, according to this year's mid-year Law Enforcement Officers Fatalities Report.

Once more, while overall law enforcement fatalities are decreasing, traffic-related fatalities are on the rise.

Auto makers and high-tech companies are working to arm officers and their vehicles with more technologies designed to actively take steps to elevate protection by reducing distraction.

Project to combat transnational crime presented

Image

The first deputy PM and foreign minister presented the Crime Stoppers Global Solutions project in the field of combating transnational crime, noting that we are that without stabilizing the neighborhood.

He assessds the experience and reputation that Crime Stoppers Global Solutions can significantly help Serbia in the challenges it faces when it comes to combating cross-border crime.

"I am convinced that the citizens of Serbia, as well as our state institutions, will well accept the concept of crime stops, which has been in the United States and many other countries for more than four decades, and that this project will also be a way to achieve a common goal – a safe community where dealing with crime is a big and unreasonable risk", Dacic said.

Police need public's trust before adopting new technologies, officials say

Image

Police departments should gauge the sentiment of the communities they serve before adopting new law enforcement technologies like unmanned aerial vehicles or artificial intelligence, speakers said at a session on 21st-century policing Friday at the South by Southwest conference in Austin, Texas.

The Boston Police Department, for instance, does not use drones because the technology has not yet earned the public's trust, said Paul Fitzgerald, the department's former intelligence and analysis chief.

"We know there's great use for them and ultimately we will be using them," Fitzgerald said. "You need the community to trust what you're doing. It's a lot of work. When you get to that point, they're going to give you the benefit of the doubt that we're going to use them for the right reasons."

Chris Fisher, the chief strategy officer at the Seattle Police Department said that his city conducts public hearings on its new law enforcement technologies

Technological tricks can help end sex trafficking: Former IBM vice president

Image

With Robert Kraft's recent charges of soliciting prostitution, many Americans are becoming aware for the first time of the dark underworld of sex trafficking in this country. But trafficking doesn't just take place in massage parlors.

The grim reality is that if I pulled out my phone right now, day or night, I could have a woman or even a child at my home or office within thirty minutes. And there would be a strong possibility that, however willing she might seem, she would not be there by choice.

But technology hasn't just made trafficking women and children for sex easier — it's also how we can stop it.

Police in Ontario free 43 Mexicans brought to Canada by alleged human traffickers

Image

Ontario Provincial Police say they have freed 43 modern-day slaves brought to Canada from Mexico by alleged human traffickers and forced to work as cleaners at hotels.

The 43, mostly men aged 20 to 46, were coached on what to say when they entered Canada, lived in "squalid" conditions in Barrie and Wasaga Beach, and were transported to hotel and vacation properties in Central and Eastern Ontario to work, police said on Monday.

All were freed last Tuesday following a joint investigation that involved the OPP, Barrie Police Service and Canada Border Services Agency.

"Human trafficking is modern-day slavery," OPP Deputy Commissioner Rick Barnum told reporters in Barrie. "Exploitation is the key element of this offence."

Meet William Singer, The Ringleader At The Center Of The College Bribery Scandal

Image

There's a new Billy McFarland in town, and his name is William Singer. Today, news broke of a $25 million nationwide college-acceptance fraud scandal, implicating at least 33 parents (among them, Felicity Huffman and Lori Loughlin, a famous fashion designer, and prominent real estate investors and CEOs), nine coaches at Yale, Stanford, USC, Wake Forest, and Georgetown, two exam administrators, one exam proctor, one college administrator, and three people who organized the operation.

At the center of the scandal is William Singer, founder of a college-prep business called The Key, who took millions of dollars from his clients to get their children admitted to elite colleges by falsely positioning them as competitive athletic recruits and paying test administrators to fake their test scores. So far, Singer has been charged with racketeering conspiracy, money laundering conspiracy, conspiracy to defraud U.S., and obstruction of justice.

In a press conference held at the U.S. Attorney's Office this morning at 11 a.m. ET, details of the extreme lengths Singer went to to secure student admission were revealed — including the Photoshopping of students' faces on athletes' bodies and arranging for students to take the SAT or ACt individually with the administrators he bribed.

Sports Betting Could Arrive at North Carolina Cherokee Casinos

Image

State and federally recognized American Indian tribes received the go-ahead to operate sports betting enterprises following a 6-3 Supreme Court decision in May 2018 in the case of Murphy v. National Collegiate Athletic Association which was combined from a separate petition, NJ Thoroughbred Horsemen v. NCAA.

State Sen. Jim Davis introduced S.B. 154 Authorize Sports Wagering on Tribal Lands on Wednesday, Feb. 27, and the bill aims to simply amend G.S. 14-292.2 to include sports wagering as a Class III game that “may lawfully be conducted,” the One Feather reports.
The bill defines sports betting as, “The placing of wagers on the outcomes of professional and collegiate sports contests.”

CAR CRASHES, PSYCHOSIS, SUICIDE: IS THE DRIVE TO LEGALIZE MARIJUANA IGNORING MAJOR RISKS?

Image

Could smoking weed be less interesting to teens if it's legal? Angeli Kakade has that story.
Buzz60

In less than 25 years, marijuana has gone from illegal everywhere in the United States to legal for at least some uses in all but four states.

Advocates say the drug can help patients who are suffering from chronic pain, multiple sclerosis-triggered muscle spasms and the grueling side effects of chemotherapy. Some states are exploring whether cannabis could help wean people from addiction to opioids.

Synthetic drugs have claimed more lives than first thought

Image

More than 65 people are now thought to have died from synthetic drugs, says the Coroner.

The new figure comes as the Drug Foundation urges the Government to act more quickly to introduce a multi-agency early warning system that could prevent more deaths.

In November the number of deaths linked to toxic synthetics was 45-50 since June 2017.
That figure has now jumped to 60-65, with potentially more.

A spokesperson for Coronial Services said there were seven confirmed deaths from synthetic cannabis toxicity and around 55 cases that appeared to be linked.

When technology and law enforcement collide

Image

Law enforcement officers have no problem using the latest and greatest technologies to police the people, whether it's using facial recognition tools, cellphone geolocation data, or recordings obtained from smartphone technologies such as Amazon's Alexa. But it seems that when the people use the very same tools to police the police — well, that simply won't do.

For example, we know that the police typically don't like being recorded while effecting an arrest and will often order bystanders to refrain from doing so — and have even been known to take custody of devices and delete data from them. Along the same lines, law enforcement has never been a fan of a more mundane and less tech-savvy practice that many motorists engage in: flashing their headlights in order to warn other motorists of a speed trap.\

So I wasn't surprised to learn that the New York Police Department had set its sights on the 21st century version of headlight flashing: the Waze app's user-submitted reports regarding speed taps and DWI checkpoints.

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